Bombay Gazette.

Wednesday, November 19, 1817.

(Volume 28.) (Number 1433.

Sales by Auction.

ON Friday the 21st Instant,

THE

Following Articles

WILL BE

EXPOSED FOR SALE

AT THE

Auction Rooms

OF

E. Reel & Co.

Nesbitt's Lane,

VIZ.

A VERY fine assortment of Household Furniture consisting of Chests of Drawers, Dining Tables and Sideboards, several sets of Queen's Ware, Glass and Plated Ware, Cyder and Perry in Stone Bottles, Wines and Spirits of every description, a variety of Perfumery, Europe Sauce and Preserves, a collection of very fine Books, Piece Goods of different kinds, a few Palanquins, a very fine Europe built Buggy and a Pleasure Boat now lying at the Apollo Bunder.

Bombay, 19th November 1817.

Sales by Auction

AT

Loughlin and Hunt's

Auction Rooms.

This day Wednesday, the 19th November,

IN

Addition to the variety of Articles

ALREADY IN THE ROOMS,

THE following fresh articles just imported, will be exposed for sale, viz. a few dozens of sweet Malaga Wine, Vin de Grave, Apple Cyder, a few Boxes of Spermaceti Candles, Perfumery, Morrocco Skins, Sweet Oil of superior quality, a few Hogsheads of Hodgsons Pale Ale in high condition and a few dozens of flint Glass Tumblers of sizes &c. &c.

Bombay, 19th November 1817.

A CARD:

TOMORROW AFTERNOON

WILL BE DISPOSED OF

By Public Auction,

NEAR THE

PIQUET GUARD ROOM,

on the

ESPLANADE

NEAR THE WOODS,

ABOUT thirty choice, beautiful, young Arab Horses, lately selected from among the last importation of Horses from the Gulf, for a special Commission.

The first lot will be put up at ½ past 3 precisely.

Bombay, 19th November 1817.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

THAT a King's Packet is now open for the transmission of Letters to Europe by the H. Co's. Ship Huddart, which will close on the 28th of this month.

C. LAW,
H. M. D. P. M. G.

BOMBAY, His Majesty's Post Office 18th November 1817.

NAUTICAL CHRONICLE & NAVAL REPORT.

ARRIVED,—November 17th, the H. C's. Cruizer Mercury, Lieutenant Thomas Blast, from the Persian Gulph, Bushire left 23d. October.

SAILED,—November 13th,—the H. C's. Cruizer Sylph, Lieutenant G. Robson, to Bancoot —Ditto 16th, the H. C's. Ship General Harris, George Welstead Esqure, Commander, to China.

The Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, 19th NOVEMBER 1817.

The Mercury Cruizer has arrived from the Gulph since our last, but without bringing any intelligence from Europe. She left Bushire on the 23d of October.

We are indebted to our brother Editor, for the account of what happened at Poonah on the 5th instant. That the *Sungum* should have been burnt, and the Resident compelled to seek safety in flight, owing to the momentary superiority of a ruthless Banditti, are circumstances which have excited our deepest regret and indignation; since it is impossible for any one whose footsteps have ever been directed, by the hand of good Fortune, to the Sungum, not to remember with gratitude and delight the never ceasing hospitality, "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," for which, of late years, it has been so preeminently distinguished.

The distress of the lower orders in England may be well conceived when it is known that the Quartern loaf was at 18 and 20 pence. Butchers meat, however, we are happy to say was to be had for 4d and 5d a pound.

Ministers by their late prosecutions have in no wise added to their credit; and we have strong reason to suspect they sorely lament having prosecuted Wooler. To him their emnity has been peculiarly propitious, since it has had the effect of eliciting talents which, but for his trial, had possibly remained dormant for ever. It has moreover caused him to know himself, and the world to know him too, and if he be but prudent and industrious, it is more than probable, for with him it is but the morning of life, that those proceedings which were intended to *crush* will have the unexpected, and to Ministers, at least, the unwelcome effect of *making* his fortune.

We regret to see that the Courier of the 1st of July contains an article denying the truth of the report, which had been circulated, of part of the Jewels stolen from the house of Messrs. Rundell and Bridge having been traced and recovered.

The circumstances attending the death of Mrs. Jordan have always struck us as being singularly mysterious. In one of the late Chronicles we perceive the following advertisement, but we suspect, from the tone of the conclusion, that something in the nature of *extortion* is intended, which, if yeilded to, may prevent the memoirs from ever seeing light.

Shortly will be published, in 1 vol. 8vo. interspersed with original Letters,

Authentic Memoirs of Mrs. Jordan, whose talent as an Actress embraced a wild and romantic range of character, granted on no tributary model, and possessing a glow of playfulness, a vein of humour, which left all competition at a distance. With these rare and eminent qualities will be associated the remembrance of her sufferings. Perhaps no keener anguish is felt than that which cannot be complained of, nor any greater cruelties sustained than those which can be inflicted with impunity. Under the endurance of wrongs which admit not of redress, this once distinguished Female retired to the Continent, where she closed an existence insupportable to her feelings as a Mother, and yielding an instructive moral on the value of splendid friendship. Of the author of her misery, it may be conjectured, that, like the chartered Libertine of a dramatic scene, he will preserve his consistency to the last, and, as he lived without virtue, he will die without repentance.

Sold by Colburn, Book seller, Conduit-street.

Symptoms of hostility having betrayed themselves some days before, we had abandoned the old cantonments in consequence, and had taken up a strong position at Kirkee. On the evening of the 5th, the Paishwa having as we understand previously announced his intention of retiring to his army, his forces, to the amount of 20,000 cavalry and 10,000 infantry and upwards, appeared in front of our position. Our force, which averaged on a comparison with the enemy about one man to ten, advanced to meet the enemy, with some sharp shooters in front, whose fire did some execution on their cavalry which were galloping between them and the main body; at the same time that an ill directed fire from some guns, and showers of rockets opened upon us. Our left having advanced to attack their guns, the enemy drew them off, and at the same time a body of about 10,000 of their best horse charged our left, formed of the 2d of the 6th and 1st of the 7th Native Infantry regiments, and compelled it to fall back, the corps having nearly expended all their ammunition. This as may be well imagined was a most critical moment, for the cavalry had out flanked us on the left and got into our rear, but the intrepid coolness and steadiness of the Bombay European regiment in reserving it's fire, supported by a well served field piece, and a demonstration of Major Ford's brigade, which was on the right, towards the left, afforded it the most timely and effectual support. At that moment too the enemy's numerous cavalry had out flanked us on the right and got into the rear in that quarter also; so that we were completely surrounded. We faced about, and giving them a volley or two, the enemy fled in all directions; as they continued to do afterwards whenever we came near them. Our fire was kept up as long as it was light and our force did not return to camp till 9 at night. The attack commenced at 3'o clock. Our Loss is reported to be, 1 Havildaur, 1 Naik, 15 Sepoys, and 1 private of the European regiment, killed: 1 Lieutenant, 1 Jemidar, and 55 privates, wounded. The enemy left about 500 dead on the field.

[*Bombay Courier.*

English Extracts.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,—JULY 4.

Mr. C. W. WYNN, in presenting to the House the Report of the Select Committee appointed to examine into the state of the Administration of justice in Wales, observed, that the country were indebted for this inquiry to one of the most valuable Members who had ever sat in that House (Mr. Ponsonby), the cause of whose absence was so much regretted by all of them.—(hear, hear)! He could not allow this opportunity to pass without bearing testimony to the eminent benefit which would accrue to the country from this inquiry, originating and prosecuted with so much zeal by his Right Honourable Friend. In instituting this inquiry, he was only impelled by a zeal for the pure administration of justice. He concluded with moving that the Report do lie on the table.—Ordered.

POOR LAWS.

Mr. STURGES BOURNE, on bringing up the Report of the Committee on the Poor Laws, said, that if by any alteration on the system of the Poor Laws any relief could have been given to the pressing wants that were so generally felt, the Committee would not have been wanting in proposing alterations; but that finding that it was not an alteration, but a total change that was required, they delayed making any report to the House till they could lay before them the character, effect, and tendency, of the whole system.—(Hear, hear.) The delay did not proceed from any tardiness on the part of the Committee, but from the nature of the subject, and the very great inconvenience that would have arisen from making any partial Report till the whole subject was investigated. He begged to illustrate this by instancing the law of Settlement. Upon that point they were prepared to recommend an alteration before the Easter recess. In the month of June again they would recommend a total abrogation. If, then, in the month of March they had recommended an alteration of the Law of Settlement, which was the most distinct part of the whole system, in what situation would the Committee be again in the month of June, when they saw the propriety of abrogating it altogether? It should be recollected, too, that this subject had engaged the attention of the greatest men from Lord Hale downwards. What the splendid talents of Mr. Pitt, and the vigorous understanding of Mr. Whitbread, had not been able to effect, it surely could not be expected the Committee could reach per saltum. The time, too, was an important consideration. Althongh times of distress exposed to view the evils of the system, they were the most inconvenient for removing them. It had been said on a former occasion, that none would choose the hurricane months for repairing his house. The Committee hoped, that much good would be effected by the Report now laid on the table.—(Hear, hear.) After this view of the subject should have been exposed for several months, some ultimate object could be more effectually attained. If the season should be genial, and the harvest abundant, the country would be better prepared for such a measure. Members would have an apportunity, in the mean time, of correcting errors, and of confirming such parts of the Report as should be supported by the state of the country.—(Hear.)

Mr. CALCRAFT thought, as he had early in the Session expressed his surprise at the delay of the Committee, it might be expected, that he should now offer some observations. The conduct of the Committee might be right, prudent, and judicious, but it had very much disappointed the expectation of the country. If any one thing excited expectation more than another, at the commencement of the Session, it was the prospect of alteration of the Poor Laws. He was not ignorant of the difficulties of the subject, nor was he disposed to deny that the greatest attention and application had been bestowed; he hoped too that the present delay was for the best; yet he did, in common with the country, feel disappointed. While the distress was unparalleled, it was very naturally expected that some alleviation, some relief, or, at least, some suggestion of relief, should come from this Committee.

Lord CASTLEREAGH, notwithstanding the strong expectations spoken of by the Hon. Gentleman, hoped the House had too much good sense to be disappointed that an earlier Report was not made, or that no practical measure was recommended. He conceived it would have been unwise in the Committee to have recommended any practical measure till the whole subject was investigated. The Report itself would prove that any such attempt would have been very unwise. The labour of the Committee had been extraordinary: in every week they met three days, and generally their meetings were from day to day. They had carried their investigation into every branch connected with the subject of their inquiry. If any blame could be imputed to the Committee for delay, he had his full share in that delay; for he was unwilling that any communication should be made to the House till every distinct feature of the subject had been investigated. The House would never gratify the expectation of the country, till they could produce what the country was prepared to approve, and to think wise and salutary; till they could carry the confidence of the country along with them, and introduce a measure whose wisdom and efficacy should gain general confidence. He was persuaded, they would be better enabled to do so after they should have felt the sentimennts of the country. The Committee had in this Report recommended no specific measure, because they wished to keep their own minds open. Great as was the difficulty of the measure, great as the Committee found it (and they found it much greater on investigation than they had expected), he did not despair but Parliament could make some effectual progress towards the mitigating, if not removing altogether, the evils that were so generally complained of in the present system. The labour of the Committee, and the result of their labour, called forth his admiration.

Mr. HUSKISSON thought it of much importance that this Report should have a more extended circulation than ordinary Reports, in order that those who had experience in administering the Poor Laws might have an opportunity of perusing it. The result of several months' labour, such as the Noble Lord had described, should not be confined to Members of that House. He, therefore, wished that an addition to the ordinary numbers, should be printed, and a copy sent to each clerk of a subdivision meeting, for the perusal of the Magistrates. He did not know that any motion was necessary on the subject: the additional expense would be very little.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought it sufficient that there was a general understanding in the House to the effect proposed. The Report was then ordered to be printed.

The Bill for the further Regulation of Marriages to be solemnized after Publication of Bans of Matrimony, states that many evils have ensued from Clandestine Marriages, the regulations provided having been evaded, and due inquiry not having been made into the truth of certain notices required to be given for publishing the said Bans; it is therefore enacted, that no Parson shall publish Bans of Matrimony without sufficient notice in writing having been given. Parties to make oath to the truth of the notice. Clerk to enter notice in a book. There is a clause directing frauds in notices how to be certified. Notices to contain places of abode of the parties. And the Act to be read in Churches at certain times.

We learn from a Demarara Paper, that an important case was decided at Berbice on the 10th of March last, arising out of a dispute between Governor BENTINCK and the Court of Policy. The latter expressed a desire for a curtail-

ment of expences, and the abolition of certain useless offices. The Governor replied, that he could not make any change without orders from his Majesty's Government. The period, in the mean time, having arrived, at which the taxes were usually levied, his Excellency recommended to the Court to fix the rates of assessment. The latter refused to proceed until they had inspected the Receiver's cash account. After some disputing upon this point, the Governor took the matter into his own hands, and issued a proclamation assessing the Weigh Money for the half year ending 1st January, 1816, and the Plantation Money for 1815. The Court refused to recognize the proclamation, or to proceed to any assessment unless it was withdrawn. The Governor persisted in his course, and the Deputy Receiver-General proceeded to levy payment of the Weigh Money assessed in the proclamation. Mr. GEORGE MUNRO, proprietor of plantation Allness, resisted the demand and an attempt to enforce it by summary execution, and the case came on for argument before the Court, his Honour, E. SAMUEL, President. After a long argument of Counsel on both sides, brought specially from Demarara, the President delivered judgement, justifying the act of the Governor, on the ground chiefly that it was merely an assessment of the rate of Weigh Money, in conformity with the original charter of the Colony, which the Governor had the power of doing, but abstaining from giving any opinion as to the right of taxation by the Governor alone. The assessment, therefore, was sustained, and also the mode of levying it. The case excited the greatest interest in the colony, and the Court was excessively crowded. It was the first case at which Mr. SAMUEL lately appointed President, presided.

A letter from *Rio de Janeiro, dated May 5*, says,—" Trade is very bad here, and little or nothing doing in any line. We were in hopes things were mending, when the unfortunate news from Pernambuco arrived, and threw every thing into confusion. This Government have been much more active than could have been expected of them; they have, since the news arrived, which is little more than a month, sent ships up to blockade the port, and have collected and embarked about 3,000 men, who are to sail tomorrow or next day. This has created great confusion in the town, one half of them at least being militia-men (clerks chiefly) whom they have obliged to go as soldiers. It is fortunate the troops they are going against are not much better disciplined than themselves, or we should fear for the result. They have a number of good Peninsular officers amongst them, and the General, LUIS DE RIGO, is highly spoken of. A voluntary contribution has been made by the Portuguese, and a considerable sum raised, without which the Government would have been badly off, having been completely drained by the war to the southward, and now all the bills drawn by this treasury upon Pernambuco and Bahia are coming back protested. The amount altogether is very great, and it will be impossible for them to take them up. Things are going on very badly to the southward, and are likely to go worse, as they can send them no troops from this place, having been obliged to bring the country militia into town to mount guard."

PRUSSIA, JUNE 19.—Letters from England give us the not very joyful news of an intended lottery for manufactured goods, in which the tickets are indeed to be very dear, but the purchasers may win 200,000*l.* sterling; but it is stated to be an express condition, that the winners shall dispose of the goods out of the country. It is well known that the English Government, while the Continent was shut against England, purchased of all the manufacturers their whole stock, in order to keep them from ruin, and filled great magazines with these goods. Notwithstanding the immense quantities that England has disposed of in foreign countries since this blockade has been removed, it is likely that there may be still large quantities in those magazines; and partly this, partly the patriotic societies in other countries against the wearing of English goods, may have induced this lottery. The English are indeed good speculators. Scarcely do they perceive that the resolutions of foreign governments may prove injurious to the way of disposing of their goods which they have hitherto pursued, when they immediately adopt a measure which renders all such resolutions null, and which cannot be impeded except by a total prohibition of the importation of English goods. The writer thinks such a lottery would be eagerly encouraged by rich individuals; that the gain being so great, the winners would be able to sell their goods at Leipsic at a much lower price than even at the late fair; and that though a heavy import duty should be imposed, such a duty, he observes, might appear for a moment a good financial speculation, but then the State would be in the end obliged to interfere for the support of the families of German manufacturers who would be reduced to poverty. The only way, therefore, to save the German manufacturers is, to prohibit English goods entirely.

Prefixed to Miss EDGEWORTH'S new Tales of Harrington and Ormond, is an Address from her Father; in which, in his 74th year, he congratulates himself on witnessing another work of his daughter's being brought before the public; and after briefly noticing the contents of the volumes, he thus concludes—" And now indulgent reader, I beg you to pardon this intrusion, and with the most grateful acknowledgments I bid you *farewell for ever.*" The good old Gentleman wrote the address on the 31st of May, and died on the 13th of June.

The Courier.—July 5.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,—JUNE 20th.

Sir S. ROMILLY presented a Petition signed by 1,400 Merchants, Bankers, and other principal Inhabitants of Hull, praying that the House would not agree to any further suspension of the Habeas Corpus. The Petitioners were, he believed, all persons of the most respectable character and situation. They represented, that in their judgment the existing laws were fully adequate to the suppression of the existing agitation, and they implored the House of Commons, at this late period of the Session, instead of passing an Act which, when they were relieved from their duties, would leave their constituents during the recess of Parliament without the benefits of the Constitution, to institute an inquiry into public abuses, to endeavour to diminish the public expenditure, and by such means lessen, if not wholly to remove, the public discontent [hear, hear!].

On the motion that the Petition should lie on the Table,

Lord A. HAMILTON regretted throwing any delay in the way of the Right Honourable Gentleman opposite, who was that night to make a general statement of the Finances of the country, but as he conceived the proposed measure for the further suspension of the Habeas Corpus of as great importance as any that could by possibility be discussed in that House, and as it would not be in his power to be in his place next week, he felt that he should not fulfill his duty were he not to avail himself of the present opportunity to say a few words on the subject. He was anxious to express his decided conviction that the measure was as unnecessary in Scotland as it was in this country; and he was persuaded that the exercise of it had been much abused. In Scotland it had become the means of great persecution. An unfortunate man was apprehended there, under a warrant from the Lord Advocate, and put on his trial. The indictment was found to be deficient, and it was withdrawn. He was put on his trial again, and again the indictment was withdrawn. He understood that it was, nevertheless, intended to try this person a third time [hear, hear!]. He should have deserted his duty to his constituents had he not taken this, the only opportunity afforded him, of mentioning this occurrence to the House; for although he had no right to anticipate what would be the decision of the House on the subject, he had heard what his Majesty's Ministers expected that decision would be, even before the appointment of the Secret Committee.

After a short pause, Mr. BROUGHAM expressed his astonishment that no Member of his Majesty's Government, particularly of that part of his Majesty's Government which was connected with Scotland, would make any answer to his Noble Friend's statement. Had the House heard, had the Noble Lord and the Right Honourable Gentlemen opposite heard, that any man had been put on his trial three times for the same offence? He knew, that by the Law of Scotland, which unhappy for that country was contrary in that respect to the Law of England, the Crown had a right to try a man a thousand times for the same offence, if the Law Officers were so advised; for although no man could be brought before a Jury more than once, he might be made to suffer all the suspence and anxiety attendant on a state of trial, as often as it might be deemed expedient to subject him to the infliction. His Noble Friend had said that this unfortunate person, having been arrested on a charge of sedition, the Law Officers of the Crown had so prepared the indictment against him, that it was quashed by the Court. There was one trial, one detention in solitary confinement, one period of anxious and painful suspence. A second indictment was then prepared; a second period of pain and torment elapsed, another argument was held, and that indictment also was quashed. The Law Officers of the Crown, not satisfied with this measure of blunder, renewed their attack on the unfortunate individual, and prepared a third indictment, on which a third argument was about to be held. It was not for him to say what would be the decision of a Court of Justice; but this he would venture to say, that no Lawyer who had read that third indictment, but must be convinced that it would share the fate of its predecessors. Was it in that event meant to try this unhappy person on a further indictment? For his own part, he must believe that such was the intention, since no explanation had been given on the subject by the other side of the House [hear, hear!].

Sir S. ROMILLY wished to ask a question of the opposite Bench. He had been informed (and on credible, although perhaps not on the highest authority) that the men, of whom his Noble and his Honourable and Learned Friend had spoken, had been three times brought to trial for felony; and that in the mean time he had been imprisoned in a different manner from one specifically confined for felony; for that he had been committed by the Lord Advocate for high treason, in the first instance, when it was intended to try him for felony, and that the same course was pursued after the failure of each of the two indictments, the intention to try him for felony, and not for high treason, still existing. What he wished to know was, whether this had actually been done by the Lord Advocate?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied, that he had not the slightest knowledge of the proceeding in question. If it had been irregular, it might be discussed at a proper time, which the present was not, for it had nothing whatever to do with the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus, or with the powers given to the Executive authority by that suspension. The man in question was, it seemed, tried three times for felony. How the law of Scotland stood in that respect, he did not know. In England there had been cases in which a man was put on his trial more than once for the same facts. Certainly not after he had been acquitted of an offence with which he was charged by a good and valid indictment. But there had been cases in which the indictment proving invalid, the Court had at the same assizes recommended a trial for the same facts, on an indictment differently charged. The case alluded to might perhaps be of a similar description. It depended entirely on circumstances, whether it was an abuse of law, or a pursuit, in the regular course of law, for the ends and purposes of justice. He did not think it could be taken for granted, that the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus had been abused in Scotland, since it appeared to him that the transaction which had been described might have taken place, whether the Habeas Corpus had been suspended or not. The effect of the Suspension was, to afford the means of abstaining from bringing persons who were apprehended for certain crimes to trial. The transaction in question he was persuaded might equally have taken place, had the Habeas Corpus not been suspended.

Mr. BROUGHAM, in explanation, said, that he did not ascribe any illegality to the proceeding in question. There was nothing in it contrary to the law of Scotland. But there was nothing in the law of Scotland which made it peremptory to try a man two of three times for the same offence.

Mr. W. DUNDAS observed, that the explanation just given by the Honorable and Learned Gentleman almost rendered any further observation superfluous. He would, however trouble the House with a single word on the subject. The Noble Lord having first stated that he should be unable to attend the discussions next week on the Bill for the continuance of the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, which would otherwise meet with his opposition, had coupled that statement with another which had no reference or connexion with it—of some occurrences at a trial in Scotland. He (Mr. W. D.) was persuaded, and in that persuasion he was fortified by what had just fallen from the Honourable and Learned Gentleman, that whatever had taken place at that trial, might have taken place although the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act had never existed, and that it was strictly consonant to the law of Scotland. Unless, therefore, Parliament were called upon to alter the law, he could see no reason for asking why any proceeding had taken place which was in conformity to the law as it stood.

Sir J. NEWPORT felt that there was an intimate connection between the sentiment of his Noble Friend on the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus, and the circumstances of the trial which had been described. When the House were to be called on to continue an enlargement of the powers of the Crown, it was material that they should know how the power had been used which had already been conferred.

Mr. W. DUNDAS in explanation, said, that his argument was, that the power on which the occurrences described in the trial were founded, existed in the law of Scotland, independently of any Suspension of the Habeas Corpus.

Lord A. HAMILTON in explanation, disclaimed having ever asserted that that which had been done was contrary to the law of Scotland. But the spirit of the proceeding was manifested by the notorious fact, establishing a substantive connection between the circumstances of the trial and the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus, that subsequently to the quashing of the first indictment, the individual in question was imprisoned as every prisoner was who was accused of sedition or treason instead of being allowed the access of his friends and acquaintance, and those common comforts which were calculated to soften the rigours of confinement [spoke! spoke!]

Mr. ABERCROMBY said, that when the House considered what the circumstance was—namely, that one individual had been indicted thrice for the same offence, they would not be surprised to hear such an exercise of authority called an abuse of power. No man contended that what had been done was illegal; but would the Gentleman opposite say, that it was the usage [hear, hear!]? Was it not such an exercise of power, as justly to call for the interference and reprehension of the Legislature? It was a subject peculiarly deserving the notice of the House of Commons, at the present moment. For the question on which the House were speedily to be called on to decide was, whether the existing danger was such as to warrant the continuance of a departure from the ordinary law? In Scotland, it appeared that there was a person accused of a political offence, for which there was so little foundation, or there existed so little skill in the legal officers, that they were obliged to fish for an indictment on which he might be convicted. This occurence was calculated to raise a great suspicion with respect to the representations that had been made of the state of Scotland. Every one must remember the impression made by the Lord Advocate, on his reading a certain oath in that House. It had induced many to vote for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus. It now appeared, however, that the Learned Lord was obliged to make three attemps to convict a person whom he had charged with seditious practices. All this required explanation. He was exceedingly astonished that none of his Majesty's Ministers had had their attention excited towards this subject, and were able to explain it. In another point of view the circumstances mentioned by his Noble Friend had an intimate connection with the approaching discussion. It shewed what the powers and disposition of the Lord Advocate were, and would help the House to appreciate the character of the Ministers to whom they were required to give such extraordinary authority. It proved that they were not entitled to any such confidence.

Lord CASTLEREAGH allowed that if there had been any impropriety in the proceeding alluded to, it might be a fit subject to which at some future period to call the attention of Parliament; but nothing could be so little productive of public utility as that collateral manner of attacking the conduct of a Court of Law, either in Scotland or in England, and of demanding an explanation which those who asked it must be perfectly aware that Ministers could not be at all prepared to give [hear, hear!]. If there was any one thing of which the House of Commons ought to be jealous, it was of any interference on the part of Ministers with Courts of Law; and of any assumed responsibility on their part for the exercise, in the first instance, of the discretion of those who, happily for the subject, were influenced by legal, and not by political motives; and who were themselves eventually responsible for their conduct to Parliament and the country. The interlocutory discussion of this subject was calculated to obstruct the business of the House, or more properly, to make a false impression [hear, hear!] he repeated it, a false impression, either within or without those walls [hear, hear!]. The subject was brought forward for political, and not for judicial purposes. He asserted that it was no abandonment of his duty as one of his Majesty's Ministers, not to know how the Lord Advocate of Scotland was discharging his duty as the legal adviser of the Crown in Scotland. The Learned Lord might be responsible for that hereafter. He would venture to say that the learned Lord would be found very capable of defending himself whenever he should be fairly arraigned, but he protested against the injustice, in the absence of the Learned Lord, of a statement of inculpatory circumstances which had no connection whatever with the subject with which it had been coupled.

Lord MILTON considered the protest of the Noble Lord against arraigning the conduct of a Law Officer in Scotland four hundred miles off because he was absent, most extraordinary. If a public Officer was not present, then, it seemed, that his conduct was not to be arraigned [hear, hear!]. He confessed that he was not a little surprised to hear a Member of that Executive Government which ought to cast a superintending eye on all the proceedings of its Law Officers throughout the Empire, abdicating so important a branch of his public functions [hear, hear!]. Was it to be said that his Majesty's Ministers were not bound to exercise any controul over the Law Officers of the Crown? He was sure that the Honourable and Learned Gentleman opposite would be much astonished—and more especially in cases of treason—if he were told that he need not communicate with the Executive Government. He took the opportunity of expressing his hope, that the Report of the Secret Committee would be presented as soon as possible. It must be the wish of all—of Government themselves—that it should be in the hands of Members as long as possible before the approaching discussion of the subject.

Lord CASTLEREAGH explained.

Mr. BROUGHAM said, the Judicature of Scotland had nothing to do with the business. The House were not, perhaps, aware, that all the proceedings in Scotland, which had been alluded to that night, were in the nature of what in this country was called *ex officio* Informations.

Mr. ABERCROMBY rose, but, in consequence of cries of " Spoke, spoke!" he could not proceed.

Lord CASTLEREAGH said, it was a grievous wrong, that a charge should be brought forward against an individual, without giving a fair opportunity of defending himself [cries of " Spoke, spoke! Question, question!"].

Mr. PONSONBY rose, but he was interrupted by cries of " Chair, Chair" and " Spoke, spoke!"

Mr. CURWEN.—If it was the intention of the Noble Lord to propose measures for continuing the suspension of the liberties of the country, in the short little which remained, no opportunity ought to be lost.

Mr. PONSONBY said, he certainly had not delivered his sentiments on this subject; and, however impatient the Honourable Gentleman (we believe, Mr. Hart Davis) might be, it would not be in his power to prevent him from speaking, although at the hazard of his displeasure. The Noble Lord (Lord Archibald Hamilton) and his Honourable and Learned friends had been accused of arraigning, without sufficient cause, the Judicature of the country. Now there was nothing farther from the intention of any of them, he was convinced, than to cast any imputation on, or to arraign, the conduct of the Scotch Judges. But the Lord Advocate of Scotland was not the Judicature of Scotland—he was not a Court of Justice—he was not a Judge authorised by the law of Scotland to administer Justice. He was the prosecuting officer on the part of the Crown. He did not mean now to arraign his conduct, because he did not know what the circumstances of the case were. But to one who was acquainted with the law of England only, it did appear strange that the same man should be arraigned three times over for the same offence. Not knowing any thing of the circumstances which might have determined the conduct of the Lord Advocate, or which serve to justify it, he should not pronounce any opinion on the case; but in England, were the same thing to happen, we should call it an oppressive proceeding [hear, hear, hear!]—But it might not be so under the circumstances of the case. He repeated, therefore, that he should give no opinion on the subject. But he would say that there never was a more unfounded assertion than that which had been made, that this charge was brought forward with the intention of vilifying the Scotch Judicature.

Mr. HART DAVIS said, he had not addressed himself to the Right Honourable Gentleman (whom he did not see,) but an Honourable Gentleman behind him.

Mr. CANNING said, if the charge made against the Lord Advocate of Scotland had been that this individual had acted contrary to the law, undoubtedly the charge then would have been confined to that law officer. But when they arraigned the conduct of the Lord Advocate, coupled with the admission that what he did was strictly warranted by the law of the country, the whole system of Judicature of Scotland was brought under arraignment. If what was done was legal, the proper course was not to arraign the conduct of the Lord Advocate, but to make an alteration in the Law of Scotland. If the conduct of the Lord Advocate was legal, it was not by an arraignment of that Law officer, who had acted legally, that they could hope to prevent a recurrence of the same in future. He begged leave to inform the Right Honourable Gentleman [Mr. Ponsonby,] who had stated that this was not the time to pronounce a Judgment on the case, that he also was not prepared to form an opinion respecting it. He required, and he was not ashamed to say so, much more light on the subject of the Scotch Law, to enable him to form an opinion. But what he complained of was, that an impression would be created against a Law officer absent on a different duty, that he had not exercised the powers of his office in a just but in a tyrannic manner. He agreed that it did appear somewhat singular that a man should be tried three times for the same offence. It was impossible not to be glad not to live under the same laws [hear, hear, hear! from the opposition Benches]. But when he made that admission, he could not be construed to throw out any imputation against the conduct of the Lord Advocate Where they to possess an understanding of the Laws of Scotland, there might be circumstances which did not now appear to them which might serve to explain what now surprised them. But the only efficacious remedy was an alteration of the law. If a charge was to be brought against the Lord Advocate, of having strained the law to tyrannic purposes, then all he asked was, that due notice should be given of the charge, that the persons against whom it was brought forward, might come prepared for the discussion. A Noble Lord seemed to think it extraordinary that his Majesty's Ministers should not be in possession of all the facts of this case though they had no knowledge of its being to be brought forward, and though personally they could have no knowledge of the proceedings in question. He could only say, that he not only did not consider this to be his duty, but he considered it would be an abuse of the influence derived from his situation, if he interfered unnecessarily in the details of the administration of the law of the country. He agreed that the House had to watch particularly the conduct of the Courts of Justice of the Empire.—And when the question came forward, he could only say, that he should endeavour to come to its decision as he hoped every other Member would do, with an unprejudiced mind, that after the fullest information he might give an honest opinion upon it.

Lord MILTON explained.

Lord FOLKESTONE said, the Right Honourable Gentleman had repeated the complaint, that the whole Judicature of Scotland had been arraigned; but this was by no means the case. The Right Honourable Gentleman thought it was impossible not to feel rejoiced at not living under the influence of such laws as those of Scotland had been described to be; and he seemed to think, that the abuse could

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only be remedied but by a total change of the Laws of Scotland. But his Honourable and Learned Friend had not arraigned the Law of Scotland. The Right Honourable Gentleman seemed to think, that the Law of Scotland was imperative on the Lord Advocate to act in a tyranical manner, and that if the Law was not altered, the same practice must go on. But that was not the case. The power entrusted to the Lord Advocate was discretional, and what he complained of was, that the discretion had been exercised in a harsh and unjustifiable manner—he had not exercised a due discretion; but had acted in an arbitrary, severe, and unjustifiable manner. Therefore his Honourable and Learned Friend had arraigned the conduct of the Lord Advocate, and not the Law of Scotland. He really thought the Right Honourable Gentleman should have possessed some information with regard to a state prosecution. But he did not wish to enlarge farther on that subject. He wished to apply to Gentlemen opposite for information with respect to the Report of the Secret committee. The House must have the greatest anxiety to become acquainted with the Report of a committee which had been sitting for so long a time. He could state that the Report was ready to be brought up; only the Right Honourable Gentleman, the Chairman of the committee (Mr. Bathurst) was disinclined to bring it up that evening. That being the case, he hoped some Honourable Friend of the Right Honourable Gentleman would bring it forward soon.

Mr. FINLAY disclaimed the being actuated by party motives in what he was about to say. He felt disgusted and disappointed, as he trusted the whole Scotch nation was, that an individual should be brought to trial again and again, because the Lord Advocate of Scotland could not draw up an indictment admissable in a Court of Justice [hear, hear, hear]. If the laws of Scotland were to be entrusted to such hands, it was not possible that they could be executed [here, here, here,]. It had been stated, that two indictments had been already quashed, & a third was already prefered. He could not presume to have more information on this subject than his Honourable and Learned Friend, he had probably heard what he stated from a quarter which could be relied on; but it would seem, it was not impossible that this third indictment might be again quashed, and a fourth indictment be prefered. And would his Majesty's Ministers endure that the administration of the law of Scotland should be in hands not capable of drawing an indictment [hear, hear, hear!] It was probable that the man might thus escape [hear, hear, hear!] and that not on account of his innocence, but the incapacity of the person appointed to administer the laws by his Majesty's Ministers. No complaint against the law of Scotland was made but what was the practice [hear, hear, hear!]? Three indictments had been preferred against one man for the same offence. The principle of the law of Scotland might be good enough, that a man guilty of murder or any other atrocious Crime, should not be allowed to escape justice merely from some informality in an indictment, and therefore it allowed a fresh indictment to be preferred; but in this case an indictment was preferred three times over from the unskilful manner in which it was drawn up. It was the practice of the law of Scotland, and not the law itself, which was defective. He thought the Noble Lord was entited to the thanks of the House for bringing this matter under discussion And he hoped when the King's Ministers looked into this matter, as in duty they were bound to do, they would not forget what they had heard on this occasion

Mr. VESEY FITZGERALD, though unconnected with that part of the Empire in which the proceedings alluded to had taken place, could not hear what had fallen from the last speaker without offering himself to the attention of the House. Instead of concurring in the opinion, that thanks were due to the Noble Lord for bringing this subject before the House on the present occasion, he thought the Noble Lord himself, from what had taken place, must regret that he had done so; for in the absence of the Learned Lord, who thus had not an opportunity of defending himself, charges of incapacity & oppressive practices had been brought forward against him, and without notice, and at a time when a petition from Hull was presented. He had risen on this occasion, actuated merely by the feeling of every honest man, not to suffer an individual to be run down in his absence [hear, hear!]

The petition was then ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

We congratulate the Jury on the termination of their labours: we have before spoken of their character and respectability. We believe few men can accuse them either in their individual or aggregate capacity, of any indifference to the welfare of their country, or the permanence of its establishments. We have learned that they wished to attend divine service on Sunday; but this not being compatible with their situation, a Prelate of the highest rank, who happened to be at the hotel where they were confined, offered to perform the duty in their room. The Sheriff not even thinking this admissible, the Foreman read prayers, and the whole attended with a devotion which was not weakened by the consideration of the circumstances under which they met. It was agreed among themselves, as it was a matter on which the conscience of each individual was to regulate his decision, not to enter into the discussion of the question they had to try, until the Judge should have summed up and delivered their charge. They resolved to hear the Judges patiently to the end, and not a syllable was uttered on the subject during the whole of Sunday. Four of them had taken full and most accurate notes of the evidence, and twelve more intelligent men never met in a Jury-box.

[*The Morning Chronicle,—June* 19.

Our anxiety to give a faithful narrative of the proceedings on the trial of JAMES WATSON obliged us to omit the important debate in the House of Lords on Monday last. We this day give a short sketch of it; and both from that source, as well as from the report of the trial, the public will see the alarming posture of affairs at this moment. The point actually at issue seems to be reduced to this alternative, Whether we shall have the present Ministers with a new Constitution, or the old Constitution with other Ministers; for it seems evident by all the recent proceedings, that the present Ministers desire it to be believed that they feel themselves incapable of carrying on the Government, without powers beyond the ancient laws of the kingdom. The question then is, whether they are to be invested with an authority inconsistent with national liberty for the purpose of coercion, or whether a system of conciliation shall be tried by persons from whom the great mass of the people would look for relief by their promises of retrenchment and economy.

It is in vain to say, that the people are not disposed to support the Government, and that, if left to themselves, they are not resolute in the maintenance of public tranquillity. It is now believed, that in all the Meetings of persons friendly to Reform, there were hired Emissaries, who instead of merely attending to, or of moderating their opinions, inflamed them—and even suggested violent, predatory, and traitorous acts. The deep settled conviction of the public mind now is that—all the ebullitions of discontent upon which the dreadful measures of Government have been founded (even to the flagrant insult offered to the Royal Person of the PRINCE REGENT, inclusive), were instigated and brought about by these incendiaries. It may not be true—but this is the public belief. And when they see a doctrine set up, that the testimony of a hired Informer is to be believed—provided that in some incidental circumstance he shall be corroborated by a credible witness; they fairly ask what security can any man have for life or honour? Let it be supposed, for instance, that a Spy shall swear that at the corner of a street, or in a coffee-room, he heard two gentlemen hold treasonable conversation, is this to be believed, merely because another might swear that undoubtedly he saw the two persons seemingly in conversation together, at the place and time sworn to by the Spy? Yet such is the horrible doctrine set up; and we assert, that while such principles are avowed as the rule of Government, there can be no security for the life of man, and there must be a vigour beyond the Law to carry on such a system.

We say this, because, while the trial by Jury is suffered to remain conviction cannot be expected under such a perversion of human reason. We have seen this result on the minds of as patient, as persevering, and as conscientious a Jury as ever appeared in Westminster Hall. There is but one sentiment entertained by all who observed their conduct, of their intelligence, their purity and their independence. So long as this great safeguard shall be preserved to us, it may be said that Englishmen are safe; but it is sensibly said by a writer in an Evening Paper—"True, an honest Jury may deliver the victims from the snares laid for them—a cool and unimpassioned Jury may put out of their minds the whole evidence drawn from sources unworthy of credit, as in the case of WATSON, but is it no injury to have men's lives put in jeopardy on such evidence? Might it not happen that some villain might shroud his crimes and have his testimony left unimpeached till long after the victim had suffered?—Is there no danger of the very evils, for the prevention of which the Habeas Corpus Act is proposed to be suspended, being produced by the active agency of spies and informers, labouring in their vocation for blood-money?—There is a great danger of this; and were it true, as asserted by some, that the great mass of the people is disaffected to the Government, we think the zeal of these wretches would actually have been the means of producing a most formidable general insurrection within these last three or four weeks. But it is not true—and the assertion is a foul calumny on the great and loyal majority of the people of England!"

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL has, we understand, abandoned any further prosecution of Mr. WOOLER, and that this gentleman will be liberated forthwith. Mr. WOOLER has, however, been imprisoned above three months, without the verdict of any Jury—without the oath of any accuser, but simply upon the allegation of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in the shape of an *ex officio* information. Is Mr. WOOLER to have no redress at law for such imprisonment? This is a question which every man of common sense and justice must naturally put. But such is the anomaly of what is called the law of libel, that Mr. WOOLER can obtain no redress whatever. The abandonment of the prosecution is, however, a good omen. Juries have lately taught the Cabinet Ministers and Crown Lawyers a most impressive lesson.

[*The Morning Chronicle,—June* 18.

By a letter from Washington, dated the 2d of May, we learn that the American Government have lately sold 100,000 acres of land on the Tinibechy, in the Mississippi Territory, to a French Company, at two dollars per acre, payable in fourteen years, without interest, upon condition of their planting the vine and olive. About 300 French Emigrants, driven out of France by the return of the legitimates, have gone to reside on those newly-purchased lands; and they carry with them capital, skill, and industry. At the head of these people are LAKANAL, PENNIENES, GARNIER DE SAINTES, the two L'ALLEMANDS, DESNUETTES, CLAUSEL, & others, with a crowd of artisans and mechanics. The highest expectations are formed of their success.

[*The Morn. Chro.—June* 12.

We devoted so much of our paper yesterday to the important proceedings in Parliament and in the Court of King's Bench that we had not space to make an observation on the extraordinary circumstances that took place on the trial of the cause of Libel, the KING v. WOOLER. We stated the case fully. The material part which demands the serious attention of every Englishman is the manner of receiving and recording the verdict. When the Jurors, on the first trial, returned into Court, or rather when the Foreman and a part of the Jurors returned, the Clerk did not, as usual, read over all their names. We understand that he read only the names of the Special Jurors, those of the Talesmen were not read, and it is universally acknowledged that a part only of the Jurors were present when the verdict was given.

The following is a copy of the statement which three of the Jurors desired to annex to their verdict, in consequence of the answer to a question put to the Learned Judge:—

"As truth is declared by the law of the land to be a libel, we three are compelled to find the Defendant Guilty.

"JOHN TATHAM.
"JOHN WARD.
"J. ADDENELLE."

These gentlemen declare that before they left the Jury-room, it was agreed between them and the Foreman, with their brother Jurors, that in case the above statement should not be received and recorded by the Judge, the Jury should return to the Jury-room to reconsider their verdict. To this fact these gentlemen have, we understand, made affidavit, upon which affidavit, with the other circumstances connected with this extraordinary case, Mr. CHITTY's motion will, it is said, be founded.

The Foreman was stopt in the delivery of *the special verdict agreed on by his brothers*, and the question therefore is, whether as the Jury did not find the Defendant *guilty*, he does not stand actually acquitted. Undoubtedly the Learned Judge might, as Lord KENYON did in the case of *The Morning Chronicle* in 1793; he might have sent the Jury back to reconsider their verdict; but this was not done. *The whole sentence was not pronounced.* The whole Jury was not present to hear what passed between the Judge and their Foreman—and they have made an affidavit that they *dissent* from the record.

On this unparalleled case, what is to be the proceeding? Is the Defendant to be subjected to a new trial, when he has made the prosecutor acquainted with his defence, and when he has actually stood his trial? The ATTORNEY-GENERAL knows, that by the rule which we were the successful means of establishing, if the Defendant were to be tried again, he must be tried by the same *identical Jury*—three of whom have declared that they could only consent to find him guilty on the declaration of the Learned Judge, that truth might be a libel. On the legal fiction, that truth told in writing may provoke a man to a breach of the peace, is the whole of this argument founded. Certainly there is an old proverb which says, "that the truth ought not to be told at all times," and there are cases of a private nature to which this maxim may apply; but notwithstanding the special pleading of the modern *Holt* and such men, we assert that this cannot constitutionally extend to the exposure of the acts of public functionaries, unless the Jury shall conscientiously feel that the writing was published with an evil intention, and not to warn and save the country. By the admirable statute of Lord ERSKINE and Mr. FOX, the Jury are directed to find a verdict upon the whole matter in issue; and if the matter charged on the record be to their own conviction *true and just*, they cannot, consistently with their oaths, find the Author guilty.

We shall return to this topic, for it is the most important that can enter into the discussion of intelligent and honest men. The luminous and eloquent defence of Mr. WOOLER on this occasion would of itself have roused every admirer of genius, and every friend of freedom; but when it is considered that he has been immured in a prison for several weeks, and when the result is taken into view, it makes him the object of universal interest.

[*The Morn. Chro.—June* 7.

The heat of the Sun during the last few days has been more excessive than we have experienced for some years past. Friday, FAHRENHEIT's Thermometer stood at 82°; on Saturday in the shade, it stood at 86°; from three to five o'clock in the afternoon, being ten degrees above Summer heat, and, notwithstanding the cloudiness of the day, the Thermometer was at 103 in a more exposed situation; and on Monday in the Sun it rose as high as 113.—At Weymouth, on Saturday, the Thermometer stood at noon, in the shade, at 86, and in the sun at 112; while at Gloucester, on the same day, it rose to 103 in the shade. This intense heat, as might be expected, has been productive of thunder-storms in many parts of the country. The vicinities of Gloucester and Tewkesbury experienced some of their effects on Saturday afternoon; and the inhabitants of the latter place have sustained considerable loss by the hail, which broke many windows.—At Lyneham, near Chippenham, on the same day, a water-spout inundated a considerable quantity of land and occasioned a rapid rise of the Avon, which very sensibly affected the river at this distance.—Salisbury and its neighbourhood appear to have received the brunt of the storm. It commenced there about two o'clock in the afternoon, with almost an instantaneous darkness, and a violent rushing of wind from the north-east, accompanied by sheets of water and large pieces of ice. About three, the wind from the north-east ceased, and suddenly commenced blowing from the south-west, with such torrents of rain for more than half an hour, that every street was flooded, and the water ran through many of the houses. The lightning was not very vivid, nor was the thunder extremely loud; but they continued during the whole of the storm, which lasted till six o'clock. Forty sheep, of a flock belonging to Mr. SWAYNE, of Langford, were struck down by the lightning, and six lambs killed; several large trees were also blown down during the storm at Durnford and West Harnham. The storm also visited this city about two o'clock, and continued till five, but its effects were not marked by any extraordinary circumstance. But very considerable damage was sustained by the unexampled violence of a storm which occurred here on Monday afternoon: the rain fell in such torrents, that the common sewers were soon choked, and the lower apartments of many houses were in consequence flooded; almost every hot and green-house, and sky-light, in the neighbourhood, suffered in its glass, more or less from hailstones, many of which were two inches in circumference.—*Bath Paper.*

[*The Courier,—June* 26.

Cardinal MAURY, who played so distinguished a part in the beginning of the French Revolution, on the side of the Court; who was MIRABEAU's great antagonist, and the only very distinguished man of his party; who in the course of time became a *Rat*, and afterwards a Cardinal, died at Rome last month. He fancied some weeks ago, that he saw a change of colour in his lips, that denoted his having swallowed poison, and by taking counterpoisons, he killed himself. He lived the life of a miser, and persuaded himself that he was conspired against by all mankind; his riches are left to a brother who is in the Church resident in France.

THEATRICAL FRACAS.—The whole of the interior of the Charlestown Theatre, in America, was lately nearly destroyed, in consequence of a riot, which took place from the following circumstances:—It appears that Mr. CALDWELL, one of the company, refused to appear in the character of the *Duke of Buckingham, in King Henry the Eighth*, for which refusal he was dismissed the Theatre by the Manager, Mr. HOLMAN. The former appealed to the Public on the hardship of his case; the Manager replied; but the public espoused the cause of CALDWELL, intimating by placards, "*No Caldwell—no play.*" Mr. HOLMAN addressed the audience, and declared that CALDWELL should never again appear on his boards. This enraged the whole audience.—The Ladies were instantly called upon to retire, which they did. After this, CALDWELL, who was in the Pit, begged that the performance might proceed uninterrupted; but in vain—the havock immediately commenced, and the chandeliers, ornaments, and seats were quickly destroyed. The scenes, however, were left uninjured. The city guard marched into the pit, but were soon obliged to make their escape over the orchestra. They, however, returned with increased numbers and fixed bayonets. This added to the riot, the mob resisted, and the guard were soon again obliged to retreat.—In consequence of this tumult, the Thatere is now closed for an indefinite period.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—This morning I have, to my great astonishment, received information of the imposition which has been practised by the female I introduced to public attention by the name of Carraboo. I believe all who have seen her (and even many well acquainted with Oriental manners), have, with myself, been equally deceived; and I am informed, that the idea of delineating the characters which have been exhibited, she acquired by casually seeing some Chinese works in the Library at Knowle. Presuming that she was the character she represented herself to be, I was actuated by the best motives in my addresses to the public. These addreses have contributed to bring forward different persons who have been capable of giving information about this surprising character: although undoubtedly an impostor, yet she evinced talents so extraordinary, as to have induced those who have resided long in the East, to believe that she was one of a superior cast. It is to be lamented, that a Lady possessing such exalted benevolence as Mrs. Worrall should have been the subject of such an imposition.

I am, Sir, your's respectfully,
"C. WILKINSON.

"Hackney, Middlesex, June 16."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

SIR.

In consequence of the discovery of Oliver's having *fomented* the disaffection that he was hired by the Government to detect, I enclosed to a friend a few particulars relative to that person, with liberty to make

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what one of them he might think proper. Those particulars appeared in a paper of yesterday, and I take the liberty of this corroborating the statement *,—that Oliver, (whom I had seen three or four times, after an introduction about three months ago), called on me in the King's Bench prison, and made some very extravagant statements of the disposition of the people in the North, to which I gave no credit. He wished me to take some steps, if possible, to go down with him, or follow him into the North, as he said, to take the lead in the business, as they only wanted a leader. He also proposed to me to print some papers for distribution, as a signal, the copy of which he offered to send me to town. This of course I declined, deeming him mistaken, and misled by an enthusiasm resulting from distress. I did not expect to hear any thing more upon the subject, but the recent discovery of his employers renders the subject, more important, and may tend to elucidate the means taken by the Ministers to disguise the introduction of measures endangering the personal liberty of every individual, and veiling the approaches of a despotic system of spies and informers, in opposition to the benevolent spirit of the Laws which our ancestors purchased at so costly a price.

I remain, Sir your's &c.
King's Bench, June 21, 1817. T. J. WOOLER.

* We do not know to what Paper this statement appeared.
Ed. [*The Morning Chronicle*,—*June* 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE,

SIR, Bow street, June 10. 1817.

The account of my interview with Mr O'Connell on Friday last, as stated in *The Morning Chronicle* of yesterday, is very incorrect.

When I first addressed Mr O'Connell, I told him that I had received information from Ireland, that he or his friends had declared it to be his intention, as soon as his recognizances were discharged, to go to the Continent, in pursuance of the object he had in view before he was arrested by me in the year 1813, and that unless I had a declaration from him, that he had no such purpose, I should endeavour to oppose his recognizances being discharged that day, being the first day of Term.

I never mentioned a syllable about the Irish Government; and, in point of fact, my information was derived altogether from a private source; and no idea had ever entered my mind, that the Irish Government were informed on the subject.

I never said, "that in whatever part of the world Mr. Peel and Mr. O'Connell might fight, should the event be fatal, the Government was determined to prosecute the survivor, and, if convicted, to execute him." I did indeed mention, that I had always been of opinion, that going to the Continent to fight a duel only aggravated the case; for a Statute of Henry VIII made a murder out of the King's dominions amenable to the law, the same as if it occurred in this realm.

I did not use the expression to Mr. O'Connell "that he could not blame public men for being favorable to each other," nor any thing to that effect.

I had not, nor did I seek, an interview with the Earl of Liverpool on the day stated, nor had I ever any communication with his Lordship on the subject in question.

I may add, that in consideration of the consequences which the publication alluded to, has in my judgment a tendency to produce, I think it incumbent upon me to take the earliest measures possible to bind over both the parties concerned to keep the peace.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
NATH CONANT.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, JUNE 19.

THE KING V. WOOLER.

The defendant moved to erase the verdict of Guilty, which was entered against him on a trial for a libel at the sittings after last term at Guildhall, from the Record of the Court. His motion was founded on the affidavits of two of the Jury, the substance of which has been before the public. The Court were of opinion that these affidavits could not be received, and held, that such a proposition as was asked for could not be acceded to.

The defendant cited the case the King v. Simmons, Sayer, 35, and a dictum of Lord Mansfield in the case of the King v. Woodfall, 5th Burrow, 2667, on which authorities he contended, that the affidavits in question ought to be received. The Court ruled to the contrary. He then put in the affidavits of Mr. Hitchins, an auctioneer, and Mr. Burder, an officer of the Court, shewing the dissentient voices of part of the Jury to the verdict at the time it was given. Upon these he moved that the rule which the Court has granted for a new trial might be discharged.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL contended, in support of the Rule, that these latter affidavits absolutely shewed that a new trial was necessary.

The Defendant replied at some length, and contended, that he could not be again safely brought to trial, as his case had been so brought before the public, and so fully discussed, that twelve men could scarcely be found in the whole country who had not formed an opinion on it.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH—"Have you done?"

DEFENDANT—"My Lord, for the present, I have."

Lord ELLENBOROUGH—"Let there be a *Venire Facias de Novo*—Rule made absolute.

THE KING V. THE REV. EDWARD POWIS.

Mr. JARVIS shewed cause against the rule obtained by Mr. Scarlet, last Term, to file a criminal information against this defendant, a Magistrate at Westwood, in Staffordshire, for an alleged improper exercise of his authority, in committing a man named Fletcher, under the Hawker's and Pedlar's Act, for selling Cobbett's Register and other publications, contrary to the Stamp Laws.

At the suggestion of the Court, it was agreed by the Counsel on both sides, that the prosecutor's complaint should be referred to the arbitration of a Gentleman of the Bar.

FOREIGN SWINDLING.—On the 17th instant, a foreigner, attended by a person whom he styled his interpreter, called at Messrs. RUNDELL and BRIDGE's Ludgate hill, as he stated, to look out an assortment of valuable diamonds, and other articles, in order to make a considerable purchase for a foreign market. He gave it to be understood, that it would not be convenient to pay for them till the following week; but to save trouble when he came for them, he wished to have the articles previously selected and agreed for. For the satisfaction of both parties, the interpreter signified that *Mr. Simon Blaum*, the Geneva merchant, as he styled him, was desirous that the valuables, as they were bargained for, should be put into a paper box which he had brought for that purpose, and then sealed up with his seal, and that of the house. The box was proposed, of course, to be deposited with Messrs. RUNDELL and BRIDGE. Much time was consumed in selecting the articles, and in making out the bill of parcels, which presented altogether a sum of no less amount than 24,000*l*. Every thing being arranged, the foreigner and his interpreter took leave, with an assurance that they would be punctual at the time appointed, with cash or unexceptionable bills. Two days over and above the time fixed for the return of the foreigners having elapsed, it was thought necessary to break the seals, in order to restore the articles to their former places, when to the utter astonishment of the jewellers, they found the box to contain a few English pence. It was now supposed that the fraud must have been committed by a quick change of the boxes, after the valuables had been deposited in one of them. On inquiry it was found that this foreign sharper had lodged a few nights at the Huntly coffee-house, Leicester-square; and, according to the notice at the Alien-office, he was to be found at No. 6, Duke's-place, Houndsditch. In contemplation of the robbery, the villain had previously prepared himself with a passport for France, where we fear he is safely arrived, and enjoying himself on the fruits of his villainy.

[*The Courier*,—*June* 27.

ROBBERY AT MESSRS. RUNDELL AND BRIDGES.—It has been stated that part of the jewels plundered from the above house have been traced and recovered, near Bride-lane, Fleet-street. We are assured from undoubted authority, that they have neither been traced nor recovered. Many persons have asked how the thief could carry about his person a box large enough to contain 20 000*l*. worth of jewels and pearls, without its being discovered; but their astonishment will in one respect cease when they are informed that it was only 5 inches long, 3 wide, and about 2 inches thick. The property the thief looked out was to the value of 24,000*l*., but he only had put into the box to the value of between 20 and 21,000*l*.; the rest, which consisted entirely of pearls of a smaller size, were put into a paper parcel, and which he did not attempt to remove. One diamond necklace which was carried off was alone valued at 10,280*l*.; and a pearl necklace, of only 37 pearls, was worth 3000 guineas.—The negociation between the thieves and this respectable firm was conducted on behalf of the latter by Mr. RUNDELL, jun. who set out for Paris on Thursday last. The wife of the interpreter is in custody in this country.

[*The Courier*,—*July* 1.

The recent robbery, committed at an eminent jeweller's in the City, reminds a Correspondent of a similar fraud, though not to so large an amount, practised a few years ago, in which the sufferers in the present instance were in part made the innocent means by which it was perpetrated. A person, with the air of a man of consequence, went in a handsome carriage to an opulent pawnbroker, in the neighbourhood of Ludgate-hill and desiring to see the master of the house, was shewn into the drawing-room. He then informed the pawnbroker, that he had immediate occasion for one thousand pounds for a short period, for which he intended to pledge a snuff box, saying that as it was probable he was not a judge of its value, he might take it to his neighbours, the jewellers, who were quite competent to put a value on it. This being done, after a due examination, they declared they would willingly give sixteen hundred pounds for it, which satisfied the pawnbroker; and, the other terms being agreed upon, a check for the amount was written. The stranger observed, that the transaction must be kept a profound secret; and, to prevent the possibility of the box being exposed, it would be necessary to seal it up in paper till the time arrived of its being redeemed.—Paper was given to him for this purpose, and his seal was fixed upon the package. A considerable lapse having taken place after the stipulated time, the seal was broken, and the box again carried to the jewellers; but it was now discovered, that, instead of the box set with costly brilliants, formerly shewn to them, this was one set with stones of paste, not worth more than 40*l*. but an exact pattern of the former one, and which the sharper had contrived to substitute for it, during the time of sealing it.

[*The Courier*,—*July* 4.

FINAL EXAMINATION OF MRS. HARRIOT MOLYNEAUX FOR CHILD STEALING.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.—We do not recollect, for years past, a case which has excited more interest than the present. Every avenue to the Office was blocked up at an early hour in the morning, and the seats in the Office were occupied by the Duke of Leeds, Mr. Sellon, and other Members of Parliament; besides a number of well dressed females, whom curiosity had brought thither.

The prisoner was brought from Coldbath Fields prison, accompanied by a female friend, escorted by Plank, the officer, between one and two o'clock. She was dressed in a damson coloured cloth pelisse, with a French bonnet and black veil, and her age is thirty-five. She entered the office by the back door, and was shewn into the office-keeper's apartments, where she had a conference with Mr. Andrews, her Counsel. On her approaching the examination-room through the long passage, Mr. Butler her solicitor, asked her if she had not better drop her veil to avoid impertinent curiosity? to which she replied, "Thank you, Sir, but I have no fear of being seen."—On her entering the examination dock, there was Mrs. Porter, with the infant child, who sat close to the prisoner during the hearing.

Louisa Wolfe stated herself to be fourteen years of age, was sworn:—she stated, that on Friday evening the 6th inst, about seven o'clock, she was sitting down at the door of Mr. Montague's house, in Portman-square, nursing Mr. Porter's child, when the Prisoner came to her and said it was a sweet babe. There were two other girls with her, named Lucy Harris and Betsey,—to whom the Prisoner gave halfpence, and desired them to go to the New Road. The Prisoner desired witness to come round the corner to prevent being seen by her mistress, the girl having informed her to whom the child belonged. The Prisoner called out Oh! and was about to exclaim, but she was restrained by the persuasions of her Counsel, but she protested that she would talk, when Mr. Andrews told her, that if she did not let him take care of her case, he could do nothing for her. The Prisoner then sent witness on an errand to No. 21, Lower Berkeley-street, to knock at the door and to tell the young woman who answered it that she was waiting for her, and had been all day. The girl was to have sixpence on her return, the Prisoner having given her sixpence for going. On her return the prisoner was gone. The prisoner asked her to give her the child, as she could not reach the knocker of the door with it. There was no No. 21 in the street. Witness cried, and a female passing informed her mistress what had happened. The prisoner was dressed in a black silk gown, and a black veil over a straw bonnet. Mr. Andrews cross-examined the witness, who said that prisoner's veil was down, but she could see her face clearly through it.

John Armorod, the hackney-coach waterman, identified the Prisoner as being the lady who came down Crawford-street and hired a chariot in Paddington-street. Witness held the child whilst the Prisoner got into the coach, about seven o'clock. She ordered the coach to Piccadilly.

William Sellons, a Mary le-bone constable, produced the clothes found upon the child, which the Prisoner had purchased.

Mr. H. Porter, father of the infant, proved having had the loss of him cried, and that he found him at the Golden Fleece, Chichester, the particulars of which fact have been already stated. Mr. Porter also stated that he went to Croydon, and the manner in which he traced the infant.

Thomas Wollen, a hackney-coachman, proved taking the prisoner to Croydon, and he described particulars already before the public, and he spoke of the Prisoner's kind attention to the child on the journey.

It turned out, on a question put by Mr. ANDREWS to the father of the child, that information had been conveyed to the coast by telegraph to prevent the prisoner getting abroad. The prisoner knew the French Ambassador, it was stated.

The prisoner was fully committed for trial, and the parties were bound over to prosecute.

At the prisoner's request, the commitment was made out for Cold Bath Fields, rather than for Newgate.

[*The Courier*,—*June* 17.

DOCTOR CHALMERS' SERMONS.

A collection of Sermons by this Reverend Divine has recently issued from the Scottish press. They are of remarkable character, from the subjects upon which he has chosen to expatiate. He particularly directs the attention of his audience to astronomical contemplations, with a view to combat the objections that have frequently been raised against the Christian system, from the just supposition that the brilliant spheres we see rolling around us, have upon their surfaces human inhabitants, as well as this our earth. When Fontenelle's "*Plurality of Worlds*" was first published, it was generally decried as an Anticlyristian work. The controversy has since been carried on with various fortune; and whatever may be the opinion of the reader as to Dr. Chalmers' power of argument upon this interesting subject, we think it will at least be acknowledged, that his imagination is of a very superior order. Having laid down the general principles of astronomy, he proceeds to consider whether planets be like our earth, the abode of life.

"Why then," says the eloquent preacher, "suppose that this little spot, little at least in the immensity which surrounds it, should be the exclusive abode of life and intelligence? What reason to think that those mightier globes which roll in other parts of creation, and which we have discovered to be worlds in magnitude, are not also worlds in use and in dignity? Why should we think that the great Architect of Nature, supreme in wisdom as he is in power, would call these stately mansions into existence, and leave them unoccupied? When we cast our eye over the broad sun, and look at the country on the other side, we see nothing but the blue land stretching obscurely over the distant horizon. We are too far away to perceive the richness of its scenery, or to hear the sound of its population. Why not extend this principle to the still more distant parts of the universe? What though, from this remote point of observation, we can see nothing but a naked roundness of yon planetary orbs, are we therefore to say that they are so many vast and unpeopled solitudes; that desolation reigns in every part of the universe but ours; that the whole energy of the divine attributes is expended on one insignificant corner of these mighty works; and that to this earth alone belongs the bloom of vegetation, or the blessedness of life, or the dignity of rational and immortal existence?"

Surveying the immensity which the discovery of science gives to the planetary system, he then observes—

"They lay open to us a number of worlds, rolling in their respective circles round the vast luminary, and prove that the ball which we tread upon, with all its mighty burdens of oceans and continents, instead of being distinguished from the others, is among the least of them; and from some of the more distant planets, would not occupy a visible point on the concave of their firmament. They let us know, that though this mighty earth, with all its myriads of people, were to sink into annihilation, there are some worlds where an event so awful to us would be unnoticed and unknown; and others where it would be nothing more than the disappearance of a little star which had ceased from its twinkling. The universe at large would suffer as little, in its splendour and variety, by the destruction of our planet, as the verdure and sublime magnitude of a forest would suffer by the fall of a single leaf. The leaf quivers on the branch which supports it; it lies at the mercy of the least accident. A breath of wind tears it from its stem, and it lights on the stream of water which passes underneath. In a moment of time, the life, which we know, by the microscope, it teems with, is extinguished; and an occurrence so insignificant in the eye of man, and on the scale of his observation, carries in it, to the myriads which people this little leaf, an event as terrible and as decisive as the destruction of a world. Now, on the grand scale of the universe, we, the occupiers of this ball, which performs its little round among suns and the systems that astronomy has unfolded, we may feel the same littleness, and the same insecurity. We differ from the leaf only in this circumstance, that it would require the operation of greater elements to destroy us. But these elements exist."

After expatiating on the immensity of space occupied by those numerous worlds, and calculating some of the distances which interpose between the different parts of creation, he adds, with sentiments of due acknowledgment, as appropriately as eloquently expressed—"These are great numbers and great calculations, and the mind feels its own impotency in attempting to grasp them.—We can state them in words. We can exhibit them in figures. We can demonstrate them by the powers of a most rigid and infallible geometry. But no human fancy can summon up a lively or an adequate conception—can roam in its ideal flight over this immeasurable largeness—can take in this mighty space in all its grandeur, and in all its immensity—can sweep the outer boundaries of such a creation—or lift itself up to the majesty of that great and invisible arm, on which all is suspended."

With one more lively and happy illustration we shall conclude our specimens of this very powerful and excursive imagination. "It was the telescope, that, by piercing the obscurity which lies between us and distant worlds, put infidelity in possession of the argument against which we are contending. But about the time of its invention, another instrument was formed, which laid open a scene no less wonderful, and rewarded the inquisitive spirit of man with a discovery which serves to neutralize the whole of this argument. This was the microscope. The one led me to see a system in every star. The other leads me to see a world in every atom. The one taught me that this mighty globe, with the whole burden of its people, and of its countries, is but a grain of sand in the high field of immensity. The other teaches me that every grain of sand may harbour within it the tribes and the families of a busy population. The one told me of the insignificance of the world I tread upon. The other redeems it from all its insignificance, for it tells me, that in the leaves of every forest, and in the flowers of every garden, and in the water of every rivulet, there are worlds teeming with life, and numberless as are the glories of the firmament. The one has suggested to me, that beyond and above all that is visible to man, there may lie fields of creation which sweep immeasurably along, and carry the impress of the Almighty's hand to the remotest scenes of the universe. The other suggests to me, that within and beneath that minuteness, which the aided eye of man has been able to explore, there may be a region of invisibles; and that could we draw aside the mysterious curtain which shrouds it from our senses, we might there see a theatre as many wonders as astronomy has unfolded—an universe within the compass of a point so small as to elude the powers of the microscope, but were the wonder-working God finds room for the exercise of all his attributes, where he can raise another mechanism of worlds, and fill and animate them all with the evidence of his glory."

LALLA ROOKH.

The following lines are extracted from this exquisite Poem. They refer to an appeal which NOURMAHAL had made to constancy in love:—

There was a pathos in this lay,
That, ev'n without enchantment's art,
Would instantly have found its way
Deep into SELIM's burning heart;
But breathing as it did a tone
To earthly lutes and lips unknown;
With every chord fresh from the touch
Of music's spirit—'twas too much!
Starting he dash'd away the cup,—
Which, all the time of this sweet air,
His hand had held, untasted, up,
As if 'twere fix'd by magic there,—
And naming her, so long unnam'd,
So long unseen, wildly exclaim'd,
"Oh NOURMAHAL! oh NOURMAHAL!
"Hadst thou but sung this witching strain
"I could forget—forgive thee all,
"And never leave those eyes again."
The mask is off—the charm is wrought—
And SELIM to his heart has caught,
In blushes, more than ever bright,
His NOURMAHAL, his Haram's light,
And well do vanish'd frowns enhance
The charm of every brighten'd glance;
And dearer seems each dawning smile
For having lost its light awhile;
And happier now for all her sighs,
As on his arm her head reposes,
She whispers him, with laughing eyes,
"Remember, love, the Feast of Roses!"

THE THREE A's,

IN REFERENCE TO TWO LATE BARRISTERIAL FRACAS.

When that long-winded rally
'Twixt ADOLPHUS and ALLEY
Which ended in powder and smoke,
First gave conversation
To the learn'd of the nation,
'Twas thought an un-*common law* joke.
But who could divine
That at the same shrine
Adolphus would plead with another,
Where ANDREWS *shew'd cause*
In defiance of laws, *
In a *motion to non-suit* his Brother!
Now these Lawyers so grave,
So bold and so brave,
So monstr'ously given to wrangling,
Prove if one trade won't do
They can manage with two
For some of them dabble in *Mangling*.

QUI TAM.

* The last assault took place in a *Court of Justice*

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